

**CITY OF LONG BEACH DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE
LONG BEACH SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMISSION**

MINUTES

November 18, 2004

LOCATION:

California Recreation Community Center
1550 Martin Luther King Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90813

I. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Higginson, Chair, called the meeting of the Senior Citizens Advisory Commission to order at 9:00 a.m. at California Recreation Community Center.

II. FLAG SALUTE –

III. ROLL CALL / WELCOME OF GUESTS

The following Commissioners responded to roll call and confirmed a quorum.

Patricia Bergendahl, 6th District
Barbara J. Bolin, 9th District
Henry Brunner, 7th District
Rose Cabanban, 7th District
Betty Davenport, 5th District - Unexcused
Florence Dodge, 3rd District
Rita Ellner, 2nd District
Teodoro Felix, 1st District

Rabbi Sidney Guthman, 3rd District
Mary Hernandez, 7th District
Nancy Higginson, 3rd District
Vivian Linderman, 8th District
Teresa Munoz, 2nd District
Lu Wall, 3rd District
Berry Yolken, 3rd District

Staff

Sherri Nixon-Joiner, Community Recreation Superintendent
Belem Solis, Community Recreation Superintendent
Del Ransom, Clerk II
Jose Olmos, Community Services Supervisor
La Chonda Lard, Acting Community Services Supervisor
Ellen Brown, Recreation Leader Specialist
Chris Hardy, Recreation Leader Specialist

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – OCTOBER 21, 2004

The October 21, 2004 Senior Citizen Advisory Commission Minutes were approved as mailed.

V. GUEST SPEAKER (S)

The Senior Citizen Advisory Commission had no guest speaker for the month of November.

VI. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

- A. Barbara Mc Phearson of the Belmont Shore Mobile Estates Trailer Homes spoke to the Commission regarding rent increases in the trailer park. She was concerned how this would effect older citizens .

Commissioners Bergendahl, Bolin, Munoz and Wall gave Ms. Mc Phearson information on who to contact at various government levels.

Commissioner Higginson asked Ms. Mc Phearson to send a formal letter requesting such help from the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission.

- A. Representative of Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell, 4th District, Lance Stumps attended the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission meeting. Mr. Stumps spoke of his new position with Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell and informed the Commission on activities in his District.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

- A. The Senior Citizen Advisory Commission received no correspondence.

VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

- A. Legislation – Commissioner Munoz

Commissioner Munoz reported on:

AB.1915 - Vehicles: driver's license: identification card: disabled persons. This bill would require the department to design and issue driver's licenses and identification cards containing the International Symbol of Access, commonly known as the "wheelchair symbol." The bill would require the department to establish procedures for the issuance of the specified driver's license or identification card to disabled persons or disabled veterans, including a requirement that the applicant submit a certificate, as specified, that is signed by a physician, surgeon, licensed chiropractor, or licensed optometrist and substantiates the applicant's disability, unless the disability is readily observable and uncontested.

AB.2357 - Taxation: homeowners' property tax exemption: Senior citizens. This bill consists of existing property tax law, pursuant to a specified provision of the California Constitution, for a homeowners' exemption in the amount of \$ 7,000 of the full value of a "dwelling" as defined. This bill would, for assessment years beginning on or after January 1, 2005, pursuant to the Legislature's authority under the California Constitution, increase the amount of this exemption to \$ 10,000 for assesses that are age 62 years or older. This bill, for assessment years beginning on or after January 1, 2005, would also allow, exemption of the lesser of \$ 8,000 or 80% of the full value of the dwelling for assesses age 62 or older who do not claim the exemption before the specified date.

B. Transportation – Commissioners Bolin and Linderman

Commissioner Linderman updated the commission on the status of the bus bench located at 23rd and Santa Fe. In the October 21, meeting of the senior citizen advisory commission a bus bench was needed at that location. Commissioner Linderman spoke to a representative at the Long Beach Transit Company and on October 23, a bench was installed at the 23rd and Santa Fe location.

Commissioner Linderman informed the Commission that additional Copies of the Gray Book could be obtained from the County of Los Angeles by contacting the office described in the book under the topic, "How To Get Additional Copies" of the Gray Book. The latest edition is the 1999-2000 version.

Commissioner Linderman informed the Commission that Tobacco Settlement Money is not received by LB Transit and per their inquiry is not available to them.

Commissioner Linderman informed the Commission that a dedicated bus line for holiday shopping is not within the mission of Long Beach Transit to provide bus services. This type of line is too specialized and too expensive. In year's past, there was a "Holly Trolley," which did offer open-air trolley rides from shopping centers to fixed locales in Long Beach. Although it was utilized, costs were too prohibitive to continue the service. Long Beach Transit is interested in presenting a presentation to the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission. (Attachments)

C. Health Care – Commissioner Yolken

The Health Care Committee had nothing to report.

D. Housing – Commissioners Felix, Wall and Cabanban

Commissioner Felix informed the Commission of the "Re-Thinking Greater Long Beach" conference in which a panel of scholars, authors and community members discussed demographic and economic trends that will shape the face of the City and surrounding areas. (Attachment)

E. Safety and Crime Prevention – Commissioners Bergendahl, Guthman and Brunner

Commissioner Bergendahl informed the Commission that she attended the Long Beach Police Department West Division Community Leadership Forum; in which they discussed robberies, problem areas, decrease in crime, code enforcement teams, prostitution and less serious crimes. Commissioner Bergendahl distributed information on "The Way to be Street Wise," "Street Sense," "Protect your Residence from Burglary," "Community Awareness Forum," home Security Guide" and "Police Chief for a Day Contest." (Attachments)

F. Quality of Life and Leisure – Commissioners Dodge and Hernandez

Commissioner Dodge encouraged the Commission to view the Parks, Recreation and Marine's, Monthly Report and she also informed the Commission that Vocalist, C.C. Ivey is interested in lending her vocal talents to Senior Centers.

G. Community Relations – Commissioners Davenport and Ellner

Commissioner Ellner informed the Commission that she has been walking the neighborhoods looking for street signs and potholes in need of repair and she also referred to an article in the Long Beach Senior Center's, Senior Post entitled, "Tips for Preventing Check" and "I.D. Fraud."

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Senior Directory

Commissioner Yolken informed the Commission that the Directory committee has reviewed the Senior Directory and the only items needed for the completion of the table of Contents and the Index. The Directory should be ready for print in February 2005.

B. Senior Strategic Plan

Commissioner Yolken distributed a draft copy of the "Senior Strategic Plan" and suggested that the Commission present team presentation to City Council.

C. Nominating Committee

Commissioner Higginson selected a nominating committee. Each office member gave a description of his or her duties.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. Attendance Requirements

The Commission discussed the absences of Commissioners and the protocol of calling in absences. The Commission decided to send a letter to the Honorable Mayor and City Council for the replacement of Commissioners with excessive unexcused absences, while serving as a member of the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission.

B. Holiday Potluck

The Commission decided to have a Holiday Potluck after the December 16, 2004. The meeting at the Long Beach Senior Center will begin held at 10:00 a.m. instead of the usual time.

XI. STAFF REPORTS

- A. La Chonda Lard, Acting Community Services Supervisor and Chris Hardy, Recreation Leader Specialist, reported on senior activities and programs at Silverado Park. Ms. Lard also informed the Commission of their Senior Breakfast held on November 18, 2004, at Silverado Park. (Attachments)
- B. Ellen Brown, Recreation Leader Specialist, reported on senior activities at the California Recreation Community Center. (Attachment)

XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Commissioner Yolken distributed information on Partial Aging Related Websites.
- B. Superintendent, Sherri Nixon-Joiner explained the new structure of the Department Bureau.

XIII. NEXT MEETING

The Executive Board meeting of the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission will be held on Thursday, December 2, 2004 at 10:00 a.m., at the Long Beach Senior Center. In attendance will be Commissioners Nancy Higginson, Lu Wall, and Rose Cabanban.

The General Commission meeting will be held at **10:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 16,** 2004, at the Long Beach Center, 1150 E. 4th Street, Long Beach, CA 90802.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Higginson adjourned the meeting at 10:23 a.m.